

*The Fine Arts Division
of Shelton State Community College*

Celebration Recital

*A concert featuring current and
former piano students, friends, and
faculty in honor of
Syble M. Coats*

Sunday, June 22, 2014

*Alabama Power Recital Hall
3:00 p.m.*



SHELTON STATE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CELEBRATION RECITAL

Shenandoah

Pam Harmon and Syble Coats

arr. Eugenie Rocherolle

Summer Works

Peggy Rowe

Peggy Rowe

Parasailing

The Elf and The Fairy

Dana Hurst

Randal Faber
Bernice Benson Bentley

Lotus Land, Op. 47, No. 1

Candace Hamner

Cyril Scott

The Firefly

Kayla Beams Rutherford

Anton Bilotti

Nocturne in Eb Major, Op. 9, No.2

Brian Cocke

Frederick Chopin

Wind Beneath My Wings

Kristina Spruill Motley, soprano

Larry Henley and Jeff Silbar

Try to Remember from *The Fantasticks*

Dewin Tibbs, baritone

Harvey Schmidt

L'Arabesque

Festival in Aragon

Justin Kelly

Friedrich Burgmuller
Lynn Freeman Olson

Notturmo in c minor, Op. 54, No. 4

Meredith McCool

Edvard Grieg

Nocturne

The *Constant Bass*

Jake Shackelford

Lynn Freeman Olson
William Gillock

Va! Laisse couler mes larmes from *Werther*

Jules Massenet

Go! Let my tears flow, dear sister. Tears that are not shed hammer our souls with their steady drops.

Eventually, the heart becomes so fragile that it may break.

505-970-2222

• 8300

www.sheltonstate.edu

About the Performers

Pam Harmon is a talented musician who loves playing the piano for fun. She is an employee for DCH Cancer Center. Ms. Harmon received her RN degree from Clayton State College in Georgia. She and her husband David have one daughter Becky. They also are the proud owners of their dog Xit. Ms. Harmon began piano lessons as a child at her mother's insistence, followed by 40 years of not playing at all. Today she plays for fun! Using her talent, she has served as pianist for Eutaw Presbyterian Church for several years. Recently, she presented an afternoon concert of her favorite songs for her friends and family.

Peggy Rowe McKay attended SSCC from 1980-1982 on a Performing Arts Scholarship. She was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Who's Who among American Junior College Students, was the accompanist for the Shelton Singers under the direction of Syble Coats, was voted Outstanding Choral Student in 1981, and was selected as Shelton's 1982 Most Outstanding Student. She received her Associate of Science Degree in Music in 1982 and her Bachelor of Arts in Music Management from the University of Alabama in 1984. She attended the U of A on a Presidential Scholarship and graduated Magna Cum Laude. She was tapped into Kappa Delta Pi. In 1993 Peggy earned her Master of Arts in Counselor Education; Rehabilitation Counseling. Early in her career Peggy worked as Promotions Coordinator for the Grammy Award winning band Mylon LeFevre and Broken Heart in Atlanta (1987-1990). This involved coordinating promotional activities for concerts around the U. S. and Canada. Mrs. McKay is currently a school counselor in West Blocton, Alabama. She is still active as a songwriter and a performer for churches, banquets, and senior citizens clubs with her husband John, who plays harmonica. She served as a part-time Worship Pastor for 9 years. Having a blast, Mrs. McKay is pianist with Steel City Sound, a Birmingham big band group. This past year, Steel City Sound played for Chubby Checkers in South Carolina at the American Music Guild Awards. More recently, the group played for an Elvis impersonator! *Summer Works*, the song she is playing on today's concert, is on her CD "Piano for the Soul", available on CD Baby. Her Gospel CD is titled "God of the Breakthrough."

Dana Hurst, originally from Paris, Kentucky, is a freshman pursuing a degree in music education. She is a recipient of a 2013-2014 Fine Arts Scholarship and for 2014-2015 is the recipient of the Billie Sue Brown Memorial Scholarship and the Madel Hicks and Joy Dendy Music Club Scholarship. She has been on the Dean's list and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa (Vice President of Fellowship). Dana and her husband, Lafe, have become Foster Parents and have two children, Will (12), and Jaziyq (16 wks.). Their home is busy with the addition of 4 rescue animals: 2 cats, Daisy and Beatrix; and 2 dogs; Bailey and Sophie.

Candace Brittany Hamner attended SSCC during the years 2006-2008. A Fine Arts Scholarship recipient, Candace was a member of the Shelton Singers, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, a member of the 2008 All- Alabama Academic Team, and the talent winner of the Miss Shelton State Pageant. Candace is playing her version of *Lotus Land* by Cyril Scott as she played on the stage for the pageant. From the University of Alabama, she received her BS degree in Food and Nutrition and Master's degree in Human Nutrition and Hospitality Management. During the 2011 Miss University of Alabama Scholarship Pageant, Candace was the recipient of the Spirit of Alabama Leadership and Community Service Award. She was selected to be a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society, Sigma Alpha Lambda, and was a two time recipient of the Margaret Garner Scholarship. Currently, she is employed at SSCC as an adjunct instructor teaching Food and Nutrition & Health Education. She is serving as church pianist for Weeping Mary AME Zion Church.

Meredith McCool is currently attending SSCC on an Academic Scholarship and is majoring in nursing. She is a member of Shelton Singers and Phi Theta Kappa, and has been on the President's and Dean's List during her freshman year. In the Spring 2014, she was chosen as the Outstanding Piano Student. Meredith has a love for animals, for she and her family have 2 dogs and 5 cats.

Jake Shackelford is currently a student at SSCC. He is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and is a recipient of an Academic Scholarship for 2013-2015. Jake is a member of the Shelton Singers and the Bach to Rock Ensemble and was chosen as the 2013-2014 First Year Outstanding Musician.

Glinda Blackshear has been a Vocal/Choral Instructor at Shelton State Community College in Tuscaloosa since 1985. In 2000 she was selected Outstanding College Faculty Person for the state Two-Year College system and in 2008 she received the Todd Award for Excellence in Teaching at Shelton. She is past president of the Alabama Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and currently serves as the Southern Division Chair for Two-Year Colleges in ACDA. In 2011 she received the Thomas Smith Award for Excellence from Alabama ACDA. She has also been the recipient of two Druid Arts Awards from the Arts Council of Tuscaloosa. She has performed locally with the Prentice Concert Chorale, the ensemble Chanson, and Theatre Tuscaloosa, where she fulfilled a dream by playing the role of the Mother Abbess in *The Sound of Music*. She has also been the Choir Director at Covenant Presbyterian Church since 1994. She is married to composer Alan Blackshear. Glinda Blackshear conducts the award-winning concert choir, the Shelton Singers, which has performed from New York to Hawaii, including 8 performances in Carnegie Hall. The Bach to Rock Ensemble, which Mrs. Blackshear originated and still directs, performs before hundreds of school children each year under the umbrella of the Arts Council of Tuscaloosa. In 2007 Bach to Rock was given the NCIA national award for Innovations in Education. They performed for the Two-Year College symposium at the 2014 at the ACDA Southern Division Conference.

Mark Brown grew up in Northport, Alabama and graduated from Tuscaloosa County High School in 1981. He attended Shelton State from 1981-82 and then transferred to Auburn University where he completed a Bachelor of Music Education degree in 1987. He completed his MM in Conducting from The Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester in the summer of 1988. For the next four years he taught high school in Houston, Texas and Birmingham, Alabama. He completed his Doctor of Arts degree from the University of Mississippi in 1994 and returned to Tuscaloosa. He spent 18 years as a Minister of Music and worship leader in Oxford, Mississippi and Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He began teaching at Shelton State Community College as an adjunct professor in January of 1996. He has been and continues to be an active member of the faculty in the Music Department at the college and currently is serving as the Division Chair of Fine Arts at the college. He has recently celebrated 24 years of marriage to Sharon and has two children, Meredith and John Mark.

Patsy LeGrone Mitchell lives in Arkansas with her husband, Mike. A native of Tuscaloosa, Patsy attended SSCC on a Performing Arts Scholarship and pursued an Associate Degree in Music. She served as accompanist for the Shelton Singers and taught music at Vestavia Elementary, the SSCC adopted school at the time. After giving an outstanding recital at SSCC, Patsy transferred to the U of A to complete her Bachelors of Music degree. Her studies were interrupted at the end of her first year of study when her husband accepted a job with the FBI and the couple discovered they were expecting their first child. She has been working on her MOM degree since that time. The Mitchells have 3 grown children, Josh(26), Laura (23), and Sara (20). Patsy has continued to use her talent by serving as church pianist at the Bible Church of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Kayla Beams Rutherford received her SSCC Associate of Arts degree, with an emphasis in music, August 12, 2011. She entered Shelton as an accelerated high school student in 2006. She began her studies at the U of A in 2008, culminating with a Bachelor's Degree in Apparel and Textile Design on December 17, 2011. Kayla was a SSCC Performing Arts Scholarship recipient and was awarded the Joy Dendy Memorial Scholarship her last semester at the college. Multi-talented Kayla was in the Shelton Singers and was vocalist for the SSCC Jazz Ensemble, as well as being a singer, an artist, and a pianist. She is employed with Treble Makers Music Studio as a piano instructor. Her fashion designs can be found on her Facebook page. She and her husband Josh, a former SSCC Jazz Ensemble bass guitarist, are expecting their first child in October.

Brian K. Cocke received his Associate in Arts degree, with an emphasis in piano, from Shelton State in 1998. During his two years at SSCC, Brian was a Performing Arts Scholarship recipient and a member of the Shelton Singers. He received a B.S.E. in Choral/Vocal Music Education in 2001, a M.A. in 2002, and his Ed. S. in 2004 from the University of Alabama. Currently, he is completing an Ed. D. in Organization Leadership with Grand Canyon University. He was selected as UA's Most Outstanding Choral Music Education Major in both undergraduate and graduate school. In 2008, he was named Jefferson County Teacher of the Year. Brian will be starting his 12th year in the fall as a Music Specialist at Chalkville Elementary School. He is the proud owner of two pets, Shamrock and Fancy.

Kristina Spruill Motley is currently finishing her Ph. D. in Curriculum and Instruction/Music Education at the University of Alabama. She and her husband, Reginald, are the proud parents of three teenage children; Christian, Preston, and Claire. In addition, they have four rescue pets. Kristina attended Shelton State Community College for 2 years from 1985-1987. During those years, she was in the productions of *Bye, Bye Birdie* and *L'il Abner* where she played the part of Daisy Mae. Winner of the 1987 Miss Shelton State Pageant, Kristina sang *Wind Beneath My Wings* as her talent number. She received her B. S. in Music Education in 1992 from the University of Alabama where she was chosen Most Outstanding Student in Music Education in 1992. Her M. A. degree in Curriculum and Instruction/Music Education was granted from Virginia Tech Polytechnic University in 1995. Active as a teacher in Tuscaloosa County, she has taught at Brookwood High School, Taylorville Primary School, Holt High School, Davis-Emerson Middle School, Hillcrest Middle School, Duncanville Middle School and Englewood Elementary School. As a Graduate Student, she has served as an Assistant Director of UA Chamber Singers and University Chorus, and she has taught MUE 107 and MUE 385.

Dewin Tibbs, a native of Brookwood, attended SSCC from 1981-1983. He was a recipient of a SSCC Performing Arts Scholarship and was a member of the Shelton Singers under the direction of Syble Coats and Everett McCorvey. Dewin was a hit as one of the fathers in the first SSCC musical, **The Fantasticks** (directed by Paul Looney), performed on the Skyland Campus. He transferred to the U of A and received his Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance and continued to study at the University of Montevallo where he received his Master of Music in Vocal Performance. During the years at U of A and Montevallo, Dewin was named 1st Place State NATS, 3rd Place Regional NATS, 2nd Runner- Up NATSAA, and was a Regional Finalist for the Metropolitan Opera Competition. Dewin has taught music at The Altamont School in B 'ham (1995-2009), served as Choral Director of Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church (2000-present) and maintains a private voice studio in B 'ham, Tampa, and New York City. His pet, Lizzie, is a Schnauzer.

Justin Kelley is a multi-talented SSCC student who attended SSSCC from 2011-2014 on a Fine Arts Scholarship. He was a trombone player in the Shelton Jazz Ensemble, a bassoonist in the Shelton Chamber Ensemble, and a member of the Shelton Singers. Justin is a gifted arranger and the Shelton instrumental groups performed several of his pieces. In May, 2013 Justin was selected as Outstanding Male Musician. He loves pets and is the owner of 3 cats and 1 dog. Currently, Justin has plans to complete the Church Music Certificate in the fall. He has been employed at Home Accents for 6 years.

Junhao Cui is an international student from China, whose friends often call him "Wilson." His home is in Zhuhai, China, located in Guangdong Province. Junhao completed his Associate of Arts Degree in the Spring of 2013 with an emphasis in business. He is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and was selected as Outstanding Pianist 2013. After a short visit home this summer, Junhao will attend California State University in Northridge and pursue a Bachelor Degree in the Music Industry.

Sherri Fair McCool attended Shelton State for two years on the Skyland Campus of SSCC (1985-1987) before transferring to the University of Alabama. She was on the SSCC President's and Dean's list and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa. Mrs. McCool attended SSCC on a Performing Arts Scholarship and accompanied voice students. She and Pasty Mitchell served as accompanists for *Bye, Bye Birdie* and *L'il Abner*. Mrs. McCool received her B.S. degree in Elementary Education from the U of A and taught school in Gordo for 4 years. Since then she and her husband, Chris, have been rearing her four children, ages 12-19, and teaching her children, her nieces, and her nephews, piano for the last 14 years.

Arthur Howington served as Dean of Instruction (Academic Services) at SSCC beginning with the first semester in the Fall of 1979. He was the first chief academic officer of the college. Under his leadership, along with others, the college became a significant part of Tuscaloosa County and West Alabama, providing an opportunity for many students to attend college. He served in this capacity for 21 years. Dr. Howington received his BA from Birmingham Southern and his MA and PhD from Vanderbilt in history. He served 1 ½ years on the staff of the late Congressman Claude Harris. Prior to serving at SSCC, he taught history and sociology for Brewer State in Fayette. He is married to Karen Van Luvender and they have two daughters, Channing Howington Marlowe and Jennifer Van Luvender. Camilla Marlowe is a new joy in his life since she is first and presently his only granddaughter. The Howingtons have a dog (Milo), a cat (Smokey), and two turtles. Active as an adjunct instructor, Dr. Howington continues to teach history and sociology at SSCC.

Beau Soir

Claude Debussy

Let us enjoy the loveliness of this evening, while we are young and the night is beautiful;
for all things are passing, the wave to the sea, we to the tomb

Glinda Blackshear, mezzo –soprano

Syble Coats, piano

Sure on This Shining Night

Samuel Barber

Bring Him Home from *Les Miserables*

Claude-Michel Schonberg

Mark Brown, tenor

Patsy Mitchell, piano

Prelude in F Major, Op. 28, No. 7

Frederick Chopin

La Cathedrale engloutie (The Engulfed Cathedral)

Claude Debussy

Junhao Cui

Ballad

Robert Vandall

Sherrie Fair McCool and Meredith McCool

Closing Remarks

Arthur Howington, Glinda Blackshear, Mark Brown, Syble Coats

My Story

I began my affiliation with the State of Alabama in 1976 when I began to teach for Brewer State Junior College Extension Center in Tuscaloosa. I just happened to be at UA Career Center when Brewer's Dean Rayburn was looking for instructors for the extension center. It didn't hurt that I had just finished my Bachelor of Music and Masters of Music degree in piano performance at UA and was willing to teach anything connected to a college. Thus, I was hired, and the story continues. The extension center grew, attracting a lot of students from West Alabama. Businessmen in the area, especially Victor Poole, had a vision of combining the Shelton Technical College with an Academic Division. Approval was granted in Montgomery in 1979 and the Shelton State Community College began as we know it today. I worked part-time as a music faculty member for several years teaching courses, recruiting, and directing the first Shelton Singers. It was an exciting time for all the instructors and administrators because we knew we were part of something that would be of great value for students in Tuscaloosa County and West Alabama. We all worked hard to make a good name for the college so it would prosper. As the enrollment grew, I continued to expand the offerings of courses to attract music students in particular. The Shelton Singers and I, along with Humphrey Lee or Arthur Howington, made many a trip on the yellow school bus visiting all the schools in West Alabama. Fun times! Performing Arts Scholarships were available, and I began my duties as chairman of the scholarship committee in music.

During the 35 years I have been employed at SSCC I been active teaching lecture classes, teaching piano, and accompanying. I have served on many committees internally and externally for the college: curriculum development, Alabama Community College Course Directory, scholarship, advising, special events including graduations, Honors Day Events, SSCC's 50th Anniversary Celebration, Tuscaloosa Arts Council, WAMTA (President, Vice President), and AMTA (2nd Vice President, Treasurer, District IV Chairman), MLK planning committee, and two terms beginning with the first Alabama Community College Articulation Committee that designed the STARS Program. Working with my colleagues through the building and planning committee, we had the opportunity to design the music suite and recital hall for the new campus which opened in 2006.

I am proud of the work we did in beginning the Two-Year College Music Showcase, which served as the first festival for two-year colleges in the state. I can take credit for the original idea and promoting the first showcase

which continued for 15 years. The showcase provided the community colleges an opportunity to come together for a time of performance by ensembles and choirs, master classes for the students, choral workshops, adjudication, and jazz improvisation clinics. It also gave us the opportunity to fellowship with other instructors throughout the state and create professional friendships. In January 2015, a similar state choral festival will be held on the beautiful SSCC campus.

I did initiate the weekly concert series at Shelton State, where professional musicians and students perform for the student body and guests from the community. Today the series is referred to as the Terrific Tuesday Concert Series. Held each Tuesday at 1:15, the program adds a lot to the prestige of the Fine Arts Division of the college. In fact, the concert series was one of the main components for the state naming SSCC as "Alabama's Community College of the Fine Arts."

Through collaborative events I have been so fortunate to develop and broaden my musical skills by accompanying our talented voice students at NATS competitions, accompanying Shelton Singers, and playing for musicals. I have played for at least 13 major musical shows performed by the Music Department: *The Fantasticks*, *Carmen*, *Down in the Valley*, *Li'l Abner*, *The Mikado*, *The Boyfriend*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Little Mary Sunshine*, *Brigadoon*, *The Music Man*, *Cinderella*, *God's Trombones*, and *Damn Yankees*. I recall playing the score for the Saint Saens *Christmas Oratorio*, the Mozart *Missa Brevis in C* and the Faure *Requiem*. Equally important, I enjoyed my travels with the music department for performances in New York. I am so glad the college is so supportive of educational opportunities for our students outside the classroom.

I served as the first Fine Arts Division Chair for three years, 2009-2012. During this time, I, along with Linda Grote, renewed the dance department and began to increase the offerings in art. The faculty expanded in the Fine Arts during my Division Chair years, and they are exceptional. All of the fine art areas are growing with students, for which I am so proud. Thus, a special thanks for all the years of support goes to all of the administrators who allowed us to move forward and try new things.

In 2005, I was awarded the Dr. and Mrs. John Todd Award for Exceptional Achievement in Teaching at SSCC. The same year I was so humbled to be named the Music Educator of the Year, a Druid Arts Award named by The Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa. In 2012, AMTA selected me as their "Teacher of the Year."

As my teaching career at SSCC comes to a close, I am sure I will reflect many times on the wonderful experiences I have had during the last 35 years. I have had the fortune to make so many friends through the staff, the instructors, and the students. One of my joys in life is seeing our music students (especially pianists) happy and successful. I am so glad that many of the lives I have touched are still making music in some way. The Celebration Concert today speaks loudly to me that, perhaps, I did make a small difference in their lives.

Syble Morrow Coats
June 22, 2014

Special Thanks:

Mimi Barnett
Sarah Beams
Aaron Emmons
Brittley C. Graviett
Dana Hurst
Karen Morrow
Barbara Smith
Matt Smith
Denise Yanaura